

April 4, 2005



Joint Policy Committee
Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Joint Policy Committee:

CATS, Citizens for Alternative Transportation Solutions, is very pleased to endorse the proposal to connect land use to transit. Please adopt the Livable Communities Platform as proposed by The Transportation and Land Use Coalition.

We understand that jobs, livable housing at reasonable prices and transit are always connected and we wish that MTC also uses that criteria to make transit villages similar to the one at the Fruitvale Station in Oakland, practical.

Transit stations must include designs that include planning for the future here in the Bay Area. Those plans link jobs and housing. We encourage MTC to adopt a housing policy for the various Bay Area Cities to adopt that will encourage a satisfactory mix for living. Excessive parking will therefore be eliminated.

Again, we urge you to adopt the following Livable Communities Program as part of a Regional Transit Oriented Development Policy. Before MTC funds transit expansion projects, cities should have to plan for high density housing in and around station areas, minimize space dedicated to parking, design safe and complete bicycle areas with city blocks that are no longer than 500 feet.

Our organization is eager to support a strong stand on these issues on the part of the Joint Policy Committee. We urge you to adopt the above criteria when looking at a policy for livable communities.

Thank you.

From: Audrey LePell, President, CATS
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